A LETTER TO Mrs. P------S.

In which ſome FACTS in her laſt Number are reſcued from the falſe Light ſhe has put them in, and ſome others which ſhe has omitted, are ſupply'd.

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A

LETTER

TO

Mrs. P---s---e

In which some FACTS in her last Number are refuted from the title Page she has put them in, and some others which she omitted, are supply'd.

A

LETTER

TO

Mrs. P——s, *&c.*

MADAM,

WHEN you firſt appeared as an Apologiſt for your own Conduct, the Opinions of the Publick were various concerning your Motives. Some thought they were the Effects of a high Reſentment on account of ſome ſevere Injuries you had ſuffer'd; others, that they were the Effects of Malice and Envy, at being reaſonably diſappointed in your unreaſonable and extravagant Expectations; others, again, that they conſiſted of the Proſpect of Intereſt, as well as Revenge, ariſing from the Neceſſity of your preſent Circumſtances. Theſe, Madam, I ſay, were the Opinions form'd by the Publick; and your Character and Perſon being ſo well known,

your Contrition and Repentance ſo devoutly declared, and your Profeſſion of Sincerity and Impartiality, both in reſpect of yourſelf and others, ſo ſolemnly given at the Introduction of your Work; the Publick naturally expected much, and encouraged you much. I, for my own Part, was inclined to ſuſpend my Judgment in relation to your Veracity, until ſuch Time as you ſhou'd come to repreſent thoſe Circumſtances of your Life, which I myſelf was acquainted with; and, by your Manner of relating them, to fix my Opinion of your Veracity, in reſpect of all others. Accordingly, you have arrived at that Period of your Life-time, with which I have had Opportunity to be acquainted; I mean, Madam, your Voyage to *Jamaica*, your Behaviour there, and your Return back again.

I aſſure you, Madam, it would have given me infinitely more Pleaſure on this Occaſion, to have praiſed your Veracity, than to have detected your Partiality. Becauſe, had you honeſtly acknowledged your Faults on this Occaſion, it would have been a real Sign of true Contrition; and, had you dealt fairly and openly by the Characters of thoſe you make mention of in this Part of your Life, it would have been a probable Degree of Evidence to me, that you was the more capable of dealing impartially with yourſelf. But you muſt forgive me, Madam, if I ſay, you are here, neither true to yourſelf, nor juſt to others. I will give you my Reaſons for ſaying ſo; and for that Purpoſe, I beg leave to take Notice of you and your Affairs, from the Time of your Embarkation for *Jamaica*.

You

You embark'd, Madam, on board of a Ship commanded by Captain *P—ps*, of whom you give a very extraordinary and high Character, for the Civility and Reſpect he ſhewed to you, on your Paſſage; and the profound Modeſty and Regard he obſerved, in reſpect to your unblemiſhed Perſon and Character. I doubt not, Madam, but Captain *P—ps* deſerves all you have ſaid of him, he bears a very good Character, and I believe very deſervedly. But you muſt forgive me, if I ſay, that this Character which you give him, ariſes not from the high Opinion you then had of his modeſt and virtuous Continency; for you then had a higher Opinion, and a greater Call, for the free, rude Air of a bold and hardy Gallant. I preſume to ſay this, Madam, becauſe it comes from the beſt and only Authority the Caſe is capable of. The Maid who attended you on your Voyage, you very well remember, was no Veſtal more than yourſelf; and you know ſhe had a very tender Regard for her Friend Mr.——. You know likewiſe they were Lovers, and you know as well as any body, the Openneſs of Lovers Hearts towards one another, eſpecially your Species of them. This Maid then, Madam, informed her Friend Mr.——, that your Love Appetite but increaſed on the Voyage, and that the Approach of warmer Latitudes, raiſed but warmer and fiercer Paſſions. That you languiſhed and pined, and burned for a Lover. That the Fear of a Diſcovery to your Friend Mr.— at *Jamaica*, deterred you from uſing or applying for human Means to allay human Paſſions; but, that your Senſa-

tions were ſo very ſtrong, your Appetites ſo accute, and your Heart ſo depraved, that your Invention moulded your own Wax-Candles into an Inſtrument, that you applied ſucceſsfully, in aſſuaging the Power of Deſire. Fear of Diſcovery; and only that, Madam, could be the Occaſion of this; for you had indulged yourſelf with ſo many Lovers before, that Virtue or Modeſty, could at that Time, have no Pretenſions to you. Pray now, Madam, amidſt the Devotion and Fervour of your publick Confeſſion, why conceal this deliberate, premeditated, unnatural Crime? Why go out of your Way to throw falſe Lights on Characters; to give falſe Repreſentations of Perſons; as you will preſently be found to have done, when ſo much Matter lay at Home, for your ſerious Contemplation, and ſo ſuitable to the Contrition and Repentance of a broken Heart? Is this agreeable to the Sincerity and Impartiality, you profeſs yourſelf to be an Obſerver of, at the Outſett of your Apology: Or does it ſhew a hearty and ſincere Repentance, meriting the Pity and Compaſſion of the Publick, thus to conceal your Crimes, and your true Character, and conjure up a fictitious one, made up of the beſt Qualities, but, by unavoidable Circumſtances, render'd indiſcrete and miſerable? Is this Conduct right, Madam? Can you anſwer it to yourſelf? But to go on.——

Soon after your Arrival at *Jamaica*, you occaſionally gave riſe to a Duel betwixt your worthy Mr. *N*—— and Mr. *B*——, of whom you endeavour to give your Readers the worſt impreſſion. In this Circumſtance, I am again obliged,

Madam,

Madam, to impeach your Veracity, both with the Regard to the Manner of the Duel, and the Character of Mr. *B*——.

In the Manner that you repreſent this Duel, it would appear, that it was a very hard and dangerous Trial of Skill, wherein Mr. *B*——, received three extraordinary Wounds by the Hands of your invincible Worthy, who vanquiſhed and overcame him, without receiving any Damage himſelf. Now, Madam, had you been working up a Novel upon your own Story, this might have paſſed well enough; you wou'd in that Caſe have been bare excuſed for raiſing every little Incident in favour of your Hero, to a ſize of Grandure and Importance. But when your higheſt and only Pretention is, to write Truth, and ſacredly to adhere to it, the exaggerating of Characters in this Manner, is neither honourable nor honeſt. Pray, Madam, did you ſee Mr. *B*——'s three Wounds? That, I am ſure you cou'd not do; for, three Wounds were not given, I myſelf ſaw Mr. *B*——, and was in Company with him, two Days after this Duel was fought, and the only Wound he had received, if it could be called a Wound, was a ſlight Scratch on the Hand, reſembling the Wound of a Pin, which had ſcarce drawn Blood, and to which he had never applied a Plaiſter. If then, Madam, you have reported and made this Relation yourſelf, you muſt appear not only to your own Mind, but to the Publick, in a Light, which as a Gentleman, I don't chuſe to give a Name to. If you related it as you had it from Mr. *N*——, Mr. *N*—— now, as the Truth is known, muſt appear a vain Vaunter, and rather a Coxcomb than a Hero.

But

But in either Caſe, your relation of this Fact, muſt naturally raiſe Suſpicion, and take off much from your Credit, in relating other Matters, pretended to be Fact. And that you have acted in this Point, as I have above repreſented, I appeal not only to all the Gentlemen in *Jamaica*, but to all the Gentlemen now here, (and there are many of them) who were in the Iſland, and knew of this Affair, when it happened.

As to Mr. *B*——'s Character, give me leave to ſay, Madam, it is eſteemed by the Gentlemen of *Jamaica*, at leaſt equally well with that of your Worthy Mr. *N*——, and with many of them hath the Preference. It is true, Madam, he keeps, and lives with a Woman who has a Huſband. This Offence your Reſentment hath took Care to ſpread and propagate, as far as was in your Power. But you muſt pardon me, Madam, if I ſay, that ſuch Offences, however blameable in themſelves, however deſerving of Rebuke, are not proper Subjects for your Animadverſion; you, Madam, ought certainly to look within; for there, true Contrition will furniſh enough for Attention, without publiſhing and aggravating the Faults of others. And you will be more ſenſible of this well intended Advice, when you find, that even this Behaviour, which you ſo freely and heartily condemn in Mr. *B*——, was, with regard to both the Man and the Woman, a more excuſable Behaviour, than that of your Worthy and ourſelf. For this Purpoſe let me ſuppoſe Mr. *B*——, vindicating himſelf in his Diſpute with Mr. *N*——, before the important Duel happened.

" So then, you won't let me ſee her; and " pretend to ſtand upon the punctilious footing

" of

" of Decency and Character with me. But,
" were you really in earneſt when you attempted
" to bring the Character of my Lady, as a
" foil to ſet off yours? If you were, here take
" their Characters and judge for yourſelf. The
" Woman I keep it is true, is a married
" Woman; her Huſband is living and yet I
" keep her: But pray, how came I to keep her?
" It was thus, Sir, the Man ſhe married became
" her Tyrant, and uſed her not as his Wife, but
" as his Slave; broke every Promiſe he came
" under by Marriage, and in place of cheriſhing
" and loving her, us'd her with the higheſt
" Cruelty and Inhumanity. Was it poſſible that
" any Woman cou'd live with ſuch a Huſband?
" Or is it reaſonable the Man ſhould break thro'
" every Bond of Love and Duty, and yet the
" Woman remain the poor paſſive Subject of his
" Hatred and Contempt; while the Obligation
" and Duty is on both Sides reciprocal? Is this
" conſiſtent with Nature or Humanity? It cer-
" tainly is not. For the Ties of Duty being
" reciprocal, the total Breach of them on one
" Side, naturally renders them void on the other.
" Now this is the Caſe of my Companion; ſhe
" was reſpectful and dutiful to her Huſband, long
" after he had caſt of all Love, Duty, and Re-
" gard for her: Neceſſity, at laſt, compell'd her
" to leave him, ſo I ſnatch'd her from the hard
" Fate of her unhappy Situation, and took her
" to myſelf. She was true to her Huſband, long
" after he had ceaſed to be true, either to her or
" himſelf. She has been true to me, ever ſince
" I had her, and ſtill continues without Blame,
" without Reproach, to be loving, affectionate

" and

" and true. Say, Sir, judge the Character your-
" ſelf, can ſuch a Woman deſerve the Name of
" ——— ; could any Man of Honour, with any
" Decency, with any Juſtneſs of Thought, call
" her by ſuch a hard Name? Or rather don't her
" Circumſtances deſerve Pity and Compaſſion,
" not Blame and Reproach? And is ſuch a Cha-
" racter as this, to be put in Competition with
" that of a Creature, notoriouſly infamous, for
" every Degree and Texture of womanly Sin?
" who hath ſeduced, jilted and bubbled, almoſt
" every Fool of Fortune about *London*. Who
" hath known every Degree and Age of Man;
" and with the Remainder of a fair Appearance,
" ſeverely batter'd with ſinning, comes now here
" to tempt and deſtroy. A Woman who never
" knew what Love was; but whoſe Affections,
" hath ebb'd and flow'd according to the Dig-
" nity of the Perſon and the amount of his
" Eſtate. One who hath never been true or
" faithful to any Man, but ſo long as he was able
" and willing to ſupply her immenſe Demands.
" One whoſe Demands for Vanity and Expence,
" have been as extravagant, as her Deſires of Sin
" have been exquiſite and ſtrong. And one who
" hath ruin'd, almoſt all the Lovers ſhe hath at
" different Times belong'd to. Is it poſſible,
" Sir, that you can think of blending ſuch Cha-
" racters, or drawing ſuch Compariſons? If you
" can do it, do it, and when you have accom-
" pliſhed it, let Virtue, Fidelity and Love, be
" eſteemed the Companions and Equals, of
" Vice, Deceit and Proſtitution."

The next Perſon Madam, you take Notice of, is *C*——*P*——, Eſq; and here, Madam, I aſſure

aſſure you, it gives me great Pleaſure, to find you agreeing with every body, who knows, or hears of this Gentleman, in giving him the Character of a good and worthy Man. Who ever you had the Character from, it is a true one. (For I know, extremely well, Madam, you never had any perſonal Acquaintance with him yourſelf.) *C——P——*, Eſq; deſerves not only all that you have ſaid of him, but all that can be ſaid of the beſt of Men. He has a Heart is attached to Honour, Truth, and Probity, that neither the greateſt Titles, the higheſt Bribes, nor the ſevereſt Terrors of a Court, would make him give up whatever he thought Fair, Honeſt, and True. As a Patriot, as a Lover of his Country and Community, he is, without exception, the firſt and beſt in his own Country, and I'm afraid, hath few or no Equals here. His Heart is generous, honeſt, open, and free. Of a boundleſs Hoſpitality; and ſtill diſtributing his good Offices and Favours, on the moſt worthy and deſerving. No Merits eſcapes him. No worthy Expectation is ever diſappointed. His Country and his Friends are the ultimate Objects of all his Attention. To ſerve them, his Perſon and Fortune are always ready: And to detect and diſcover their Foes his Heart is ever brave and vigilant, whence it happens, that his chief Happineſs is perpetually ſeen, to conſiſt, in the diſintereſted Exertion of himſelf and his Fortune, in behalf of the Publick, and in the Service of his Friends.

I am likewiſe, very glad, Madam, to find an Opportunity of agreeing with you, in all that you ſay in Praiſe of the Governour. But muſt beg leave to obſerve, that his Excellency and you are

very different Opinions, concerning the Scheme of giving more Power to the *Negroes*; (as you call it,) you have very freely, took upon you to condemn as hazardous and dangerous, the giving of them Liberty, upon any Occaſion, to be Evidences againſt the Inhumanity and Cruelty of their Maſters. His Excellency on the contrary, contriv'd this Scheme, and apprehended, that it would not be giving the Negroes more Power, but a reſtraining the barbarous Wantonneſs of Power, too often exerted by Maſters, on their unfortunate and unhappy Slaves. And, would thereby, have been not only doing an Act of real Juſtice, in reſpect to the hard Situation of theſe miſerable Wretches, but would have likewiſe, been a Piece of good Policy; ſince by that Method, theſe Slaves would not have been ſo often compell'd, by the Apprehenſion of extream Miſery and Pain, to run away from their Maſters, and by being better uſed, would have naturally given leſs Cauſe for Apprehenſion and Fear, at their exerting their natural Rights, and making uſe of the Means in their Power, againſt the Cruelty of their Oppreſſors.

Madam, I am ſorry I can't go on in approving of your Characters, and that I have ſuch juſt Reaſon for diſagreeing with you, concerning the Picture and Repreſentation you give of Mr. *E*——, whom you have been pleaſed to ſtile *Maſkwell*. You have given him the Character of being deceitful and avaritious; and of having ſupplanted your Worthy in his Father's Affections; and thereby obtained a Fortune, which would have been otherways Worthy's. Now, Madam, you have been extreamly ill informed thro' the whole

whole of this Affair, both as to the Character of Mr. *E*——, and as to the Manner in which Mr. *N*——, your Worthy's Father, left his Eſtate.

Mr. *E*——, Madam, is ſo far from being a cloſe, double and diſguiſed Man, that there is not one in the whole Iſland, more open, free and unreſerv'd, than he is; ſo far from covetous and ſelfiſh, that he is even Indolent; and likes the Company and Enjoyment of his Friends ſo extreamly, that he would not leave them, to put himſelf to the Trouble of going ten Miles, no, not for the Reward of a Thouſand Pounds. He hath much Benevolence and Generoſity in his Temper; a high Senſe of what is his Duty, and a ſtrict Obſerver of it. And to this, and his friendly Temper, ought and muſt be imputed, the kind Offices he did to his Uncle, Mr. *N*—— your Worthy's Father. I ſubmit this Character of Mr. *E*——, to the Judgment and Determination of all *Jamaica*, and ſuch here as have had the Opportunity of knowing him.

As to the Manner in which Mr. *N*——, your Worthy's Father left his Eſtate, it was not to Mr. *E*——, his Nephew, as you have related, but to the Children of Mr. *E*——, appointing Mr. *E*—— himſelf, together with Dr. *A*——, his Executors. And that this Diſpoſition of his Eſtate, may appear in its proper Light, I will here, Madam, give myſelf the trouble to inform you of the few Facts and Circumſtances relating to the Family, which may ſerve to put you right in this Matter; at leaſt, it may ſerve to keep others from being led away by your Account, to think wrong of it.

Mr. *N*——, gave his Son, your Worthy, a very handſome Eſtate in his own Life Time, intirely independant of himſelf. Now, Madam, tho' this Eſtate made Worthy independant, it certainly did not diſengage him from the natural Duties and Affections he lay under to Mr. *N*—— as his Father, much leſs from the Gratitude he owed him, as his chief and only Benefactor. But Worthy conſulted his own Pleaſures, and the gratifying of his own extraordinary and often wild Flights, more than his Father's Temper and Advice. Your Worthy, Madam, acted not only without conſulting his Father, but often in direct Oppoſition to what his Father would have had him to have done. He left the Iſland, Madam, upon meer Whim, meer Fancy, meer Pleaſure; not only, without his Father's Leave, but direct againſt his Will. Upon many other Occaſions he appeared, both to the old Gentleman and his Relations, to be much wanting both in Gratitude and Affection. And particularly in his laſt Illneſs, your Worthy gave not himſelf even the Trouble to go and ſee him, or to aſk after his Health. It was this undutiful Behaviour of your Worthy, Madam, towards his Father; and the Conſideration of having already given him a good Eſtate, for which he appeared to be but little enough thankful, which induced him in his laſt Sickneſs, to reſent the Uſage he had met with from his Son, and leave him out of his laſt Will. As on the other hand it was the conſtant and dutiful Behaviour of Mr. *E*——, his Nephhw, and the Conſideration of the great Service he had often done him, when his Son,

by

by his whimſical Excurſions from the Iſland, was altogether uſeleſs to him; which made the old Man leave the Remainder of his Eſtate, not, Madam, as you ſay, to Mr. *E*—— himſelf, but to the Children of Mr. *E*——. But this, Madam, I dare ſay, and I may be ſupported in it, by every one who knows Mr. *E*——, that he never apprehended that that Eſtate was to come into his Family, before the Time that his Uncle made his Will; and that he never in his Life courted it, or uſed any unworthy Means to come by it, for, of that he is utterly uncapable. But to cloſe this Part, allow me to acquaint you, that it not only ſurprized me, but ſeveral others who were acquainted with your Behaviour there, that you have taken no Notice of Dr. *A*——, the other Executor, to whom, when in *Jamaica*, you could not behave with common Decency, and at the mention of whoſe Name, you uſed to break out in very unbecoming Epithets; but he indeed, is ſo well known here, that to have ſaid any thing againſt him, (you was afraid,) would have been ſo univerſally condemn'd, that it might have quite ſpoil'd the Sale of your Book, to all, but thoſe who delight in unnatural Characters.

Permit me, Madam, in the next Place, to make an Obſervation or two, upon the Account you give us, of the Reaſons which induced you to leave the Iſland; for, here, Madam, you conceal ſome Circumſtances, which I humbly apprehend, you were in Duty bound to make publick, according to the Profeſſions you have made, of being an impartial Relator of

your

your own Actions. By giving us only the fair Side of your Character, and concealing and diſguiſing unfavourable Circumſtances, you don't give us the proper Life of Miſs *C— T— P—*, but only afford Hints to your good Friend Mr. *W—— d*, to exert his Fancy on, in compoſing a Novel: And were that, indeed, his profeſſed Deſign, I ſhould find no Fault; but give us a Novel under the Character of a true Hiſtory, I humbly conceive, Madam, that the Publick would not think it entirely agreeable to Decency, or Fairneſs in any Body, but much leſs ſo, to the profeſſed Modeſty and Veracity of the repenting Mrs. *P——*.

You ſay then, Madam, that the Reaſon of your leaving the Iſland was, becauſe of the Advice and Preſcription of your Phyſicians, on account of the low Condition and ill State of Health you was reduced to, by two ſucceſſive Fevers, the one following the other pretty cloſe. Perhaps, that might be the Caſe; but pray, what was the Occaſion of theſe Fevers? I'll endeavour, Madam, to bring you to Remembrance. It is an Obſervation of your own, and is well known to every Body who hath been in the *Weſt-Indies*, that hard Drinking and high Living, kill more *Europeans* than the natural Severity of the Climate. But however judicious this Reflection is, you, yourſelf, reliſh'd it but little, when you was there, for you can't but remember, that you not only liv'd high, but drank hard; you was remarkable for it, and that in an extreme Degree. For even at ordinary Occaſions you have done that, which

the

the gallanteſt Bacchinal on the Iſland was never known to have attempted, but in the Height of his Inſpiration, and when full of the God: You have quaffed pint Bumpers of Wine, Madam, at ordinary Occaſions, and could be ſatisfied with no leſs Meaſurement on any Occaſion. To theſe gay, jovial Bumpers, you were indebted for your firſt and ſecond Fevers. A little before the Approach of your firſt Fever, you had Addreſs enough to prevail on *Worthy*, to imitate your Example. But that firſt Fever of yours, gave him, for ſome time, a little Reſpite. When, indeed, you were recovered, and able again to raiſe the flowing Bumper to its uſual Elevation, he, good Man, eagerly endeavoured to imitate you truly, he pledg'd you ſo fair and faſt, that he threw himſelf into the ſame Condition, from which you was but juſt recovered: And when he, alſo, had fortunately recovered, you again, regardleſs of your own late Danger, and likewiſe of his, commemorated with him his happy Eſcape, in ſuch a Manner, that by mere Exceſs of Drinking, you brought on your ſecond and ſeverer Fever. Now, Madam, it was after your Recovery from this Fever, and when, notwithſtanding the Dangers you had already run, you inticed and prevailed on your *Worthy* to return and betake himſelf again to the Bottle: It was then, I ſay, that *Worthy*'s Friends, for the ſake of his Fortune, which by your Means he had greatly impaired; and for the ſake of his Life, which by your Conduct and Example, was evidently in Danger; it was then, and not before, that they took the Advantage

vantage of that Opportunity, to adviſe him to ſend you out of the Iſland: Which was the more eaſily effected, as it appeared to yourſelf, neceſſary for your own Safety. Thus, Madam, your Extravagance and Expence, Qualities which hitherto have been inſeparable from you, were the true and juſt Reaſons for your leaving *Jamaica*; your Fevers and bad State of Health only the pretended ones.

Having thus agreed, Madam, to return to *England*, you was ſhipp'd on board Captain *M——l*. In relating the Circumſtances of your Voyage home, you endeavour to give the Publick an extreme ill Impreſſion of this Man, and repreſent him as very rude, uncivil and indecent, and one who uſed you with extraordinary ill Manners, and ſtill more extraordinary Rudeneſs, by attempting often to ſeduce your known Chaſtity. Now, Madam, give Leave to ſay, that this Deſcription and Character of yours ſeems very extraordinary, nay very incredible. And as I have had but too often Occaſion, in this little Piece, to ſet you right with regard to Characters, I hope you will pardon me, if I attempt to do the ſame here, and give the Publick an Incident or two of your Adventures on that Voyage, which, as in all other Things, tending to ſhew the dark Side of your Character, you have carefully concealed. I ſay, then, Madam, that this Relation of yours, is very extraordinary, and even incredible: Becauſe, not only Captain *M——l* bore a very good Character, as to uſing his Paſſengers well; but becauſe, had

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he been in uſe to do otherwiſe, it would have been greatly againſt his Intereſt to have done ſo by you. And this you would certainly have obſerv'd, had you been pleaſed to reflect, that the Ship was charter'd, according to your own Relation, to you, which gave you the Command and Ordering of every Perſon and Thing aboard the Ship, excepting what related to her Navigation. Beſides, Madam, you was at that Time, you know, a very handſome and beautiful Lady, beloved and ador'd by a very eminent Planter, over whoſe Heart you had great Power, and by whoſe Authority and Intereſt in *Jamaica*, you could have ſufficiently revenged yourſelf, and ſufficiently mortified any Captain, who had preſumed to uſe you ill; by making uſe of him and his Influence, in weakening ſuch Captain's Intereſt with the Planters there, and impeding and embarraſſing his Diſpatch in Loading. I ſay, Madam, when you reflect on this, I perſuade myſelf you will think, and every Body muſt think, that it was not Captain *M——l*'s Intereſt to uſe you ill; and conſequently, that the Probability of your Relation of this Matter, is juſtly liable to be challenged. On the other Hand, I frankly own to you, that it ſeems hard to aſſign any Cauſe, why you ſhould give Captain *M——l* a bad Character, if he had not ſome way or other provoked you to it: Nay, Madam, it ſeems ſo very hard, that but for the Aſſiſtance of your Attendant and Confidant, already mentioned, I could neither have reſolved it to myſelf, nor accounted for it to the Publick. But

ſhe, as I have obſerved already, kept up a Correſpondence with her Friend Mr. ———, at *Jamaica*, and after reveal'd and laugh'd to him, at your Weakneſſes and Follies. It was ſhe, Madam, that told two Secrets of yours in this Voyage, which I am now to relate to you, as you have been pleaſed to forget to relate them to the Publick. The firſt was an Affair of Love. It was thus:

Soon after you had got aboard the Ship, you took a ſtrong Fancy to a blooming, brawny, well-fleſh'd, well-bon'd young Man, who was Mate; to whom you made Approaches, by means of your ſaid Confidant. The Mate, fired with the unexpected and tranſporting Ideas of Love and Enjoyment, readily preſented himſelf to your Wiſhes, and gratified them, to the utmoſt of his Power. He repeated the Dalliances of Love as often as he could, and much to your particular Satisfaction and Content. And to evade Obſervation or Embarraſſment on your Side, a Door was ſtruck thro' the Cabbin, by your expreſs Command, immediately upon the Mate's Birth; whereby you could admit him unobſerved, and at Pleaſure. Thus Matters went on ſmoothly, quietly, and delightfully. The only Embarraſſment that happen'd through the whole, aroſe from the innocent, well-meant Care and Service which the Captain ſhew'd you. For, as your Friend *Worthy* had recommended you to his particular Care and Protection, he was more ſtudious than ordinary to have every Thing to your Liking, and to make your Paſſage as agreeable as poſſible. And from this Motive of pleaſing

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and obliging your *Worthy*, the poor, old, innocent Captain, became accidentally, on his Side, the Object of your Averſion and Hatred. For, while he intended to do you Honour by his Company, and to afford you what Diverſion and Entertainment he could, he thereby often obſtructed and prevented the much more agreeable Company of his Mate; which Inconveniences, often happening, gave Riſe to your Diſlike and Hatred of the Cauſe, that ſo often prevented your Happineſs. And one Conſideration more induced you openly to break with him; and that was, in caſe he ſhould know and publiſh your Eſteem for his Mate; becauſe in that Event, you would be able, more eaſily, to cover yourſelf from Cenſure, by making his Relation of that Affair paſs only for the Effects of his Reſentment, on account of the Complaints you had made of him. Accordingly, when you came to *London*, you accompliſh'd this Scheme. You complain'd to the Owners of Captain *M——l*, and freighting the Ship for *New-England*, you had him turn'd out, and his Mate put in to command it. And, having got every Thing ready for the Voyage, you again ſet to Sea, with your new Captain, who, to prevent any croſs Accident from his Mate, carefully cauſed the convenient private Door to be nailed faſt. The other Incident, Madam, was thus:

You remember, you had told your *Worthy*, when in *Jamaica*, that you were with Child by him, in order thereby, as I preſume, to get a larger Preſent from him at your Departure: And, that you might appear to him, at leaſt conſiſtent

conſiſtent with yourſelf, you contrived, by the Help and Aſſiſtance of your Maid, to make the Show and Appearance of a Miſcarriage; and having, by means of Ockam and Rags, deck'd up an Abortion, you had a Coffin or Box made for it, and, with all due and decent Solemnity, had it committed to the Waves. Agreeable to this Misfortune, when you had got to *England*, you wrote to *Worthy*, and duly acquainted him of your Miſcarriage.

Thus, Madam, I have given myſelf the Trouble to animadvert upon one little Part of your Hiſtory, which had come within the Reach of my Knowledge. I have taken the Liberty to reſcue ſome Characters, from the falſe and diſhonourable Light, in which your ill Information, or harſh Reſentment, had induc'd you to place them. And to expoſe and ſet to View ſome Secrets of your Hiſtory, tending to diſcover your genuine and true, not your fictitious and wrought up Character. Perhaps, Madam, this plain, well meant Addreſs, may not meet from you, all the kind Reception it may deſerve. And indeed, I'm ſorry, that conſiſtent with Truth, I could not make it more agreeable. But if it expoſes ſome of your Faults and Weakneſſes, ſomewhat in your Opinion, too plainly; I hope it will have at leaſt this good Effect, of making you in the remaining Part of your Hiſtory, more careful of making Excurſions from Truth; more cautious of tearing, wounding, and miſrepreſenting Characters; more juſt in reſpect of the Publick, by revealing and making known, impartially, the whole Circumſtances of your Adventures

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and Amours; that the Publick may thereby, judge upon the whole, juſtly and fairly of your Character. If it has this good Effect, it will give me a great deal of Pleaſure; if it ſhould not, you may perhaps hear more from me, concerning your *New England* Expedition.

I am,

MADAM, *&c.*

F I N I S.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM